

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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USMISSION USUN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, FR, UR, US, XF, AO, LA, CB

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - MAY 7

1. HIGHLIGHTS:

-- THE SECRETARY'S UNCTAD SPEECH IN NAIROBI IS REPORTED IN DISPARAGING TONES (SEPTTEL), A COMMENTARY IN KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (KZ) BERATES OPPONENTS OF DETENTE, ESPECIALLY IN THE U.S., AND OTHER U.S. COVERAGE IS EXTENSIVE AND GENERALLY NEGATIVE;

-- ON THE MIDDLE EAST, THE PRESS CONTINUES TO REPLAY COMMENTS FAVORABLE TO THE LATEST SOVIET STATEMENT, DENOUNCES ISRAEL OVER THE WEST BANK, PRAISES ALGERIA IN CONNECTION WITH ITS CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM, AND ANNOUNCES AIR FORCE CHIEF KUTAKHOV'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO JORDAN;

-- ON AFRICA, ANGOLA'S NATIONALIZATION OF SOME INDUSTRIES IS REPORTED;

-- ON COMMUNIST AFFAIRS, A HUNGARIAN WEEKLY IS CITED ENDORSING PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM (P.I.) A LONG ARTICLE SUPPORTS THE SOVIET ETE PROPOSALS AND A BOOK REVIEW DISCUSSES NEWLY-INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES HAVING A "SOCIALIST ORIENTATION";

-- ON FRANCE, AN ITEM REPORTS GISCARD'S FIVE-YEAR DEFENSE PLAN;

---- A COMMENTARY FOLLOWS UP LAOTIAN LEADER KAYSONE'S VISIT, STRESSING UNITY OF VIEWS AND PROBLEMS FROM "NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES" (I.E., THAILAND);

-- AND CAMBODIAN DEPUTY PREMIER AND FOREIGN MINISTER LENG SARY REPLIED TO GROMYKO'S RECENT CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE.

2. U.S.: KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (KZ) CARRIES A COMMENTARY BY V. LEVIN ABOUT DETENTE AND ITS OPPONENTS; THE MAIN POINT OF WHICH IS THAT SOME VOICES IN THE WEST, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PARTICULARLY IN THE U.S. AND IN NATO CIRCLES, CONTINUE TO WARN ABOUT THE ALLEGED "DANGER" OF DETENTE. LEVIN DISMISSES THESE CHARGES AS THE WORK OF THOSE WHO SUPPORT LARGER MILITARY BUDGETS, CITING GENERAL HAIG, NATO GENERAL SECRETARY LUNS AND BRITISH CONSERVATIVE LEADER THATCHER. THESE VOICES ARE OPPOSED, HOWEVER, BY PEOPLE SUCH AS U.S. CONGRESSMEN CARR, AND DOWNEY, CONGRESSWOMAN SCHROEDER AND SENATOR GRAVEL. PRAVDA CITES RUSSELL TRAIN IN SUPPORT OF SOVIET-U.S. EXCHANGES ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS, AND PRAVDA REPORTS THE PREMIER OF THE JOINTLY PRODUCED FILM "THE BLUEBIRD". IN NEGATIVE ITEMS, IZVESTIYA'S NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT KOBYSH REPORTS DECLINING

STANDARDS OF LIFE IN NEW YORK CITY, CHARACTERIZED BY EXTREME PRIVATE SECURITY MEASURES AND LABOR UNREST. A SHORT ITEM IN IZVESTIYA SAYS THAT LATIN AMERICAN OPPOSES THE INFLUENCE OF SEX AND VIOLENCE FROM THE U.S., AND PRAVDA CLAIMS THAT AMERICAN INDIAN LEADER RUSSELL MEANS WAS SHOT BY "WHITE RACISTS". KZ SAYS THAT THE GOVERNOR OF KENTUCKY "UNDER PRESSURE" DECLARED APRIL 15 AS A HOLIDAY IN HONOR OF MARTIN LUTHER KING. KZ REPORTS THE FORMATION OF THE "CITIZENS ALLIANCE FOR FREEDOM IN THE MEDITERRANEAN."

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF JOHN CONNOLLY. THE PURPOSE OF THIS "ALLIANCE", SAYS THE ARTICLE, IS TO WARN ITALIANS AGAINST VOTING FOR THE COMMUNISTS AND THUS TO INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THAT AND OTHER COUNTRIES. THE ARTICLE CALLS CONNOLLY A POLITICAL "RIGHTIST" AND ALLEGES CONNECTIONS TO THE CIA, THE PENTAGON AND NATO QUOTES CONNOLLY AS SAYING THAT "WE" HAVE INTERFERED IN ITALY'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS FOR FORTY YEARS. AN ITEM IN PRAVDA ALLEGES THAT CERTAIN POLITICAL FORCES IN THE U.S. ARE SUPPORTING COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ELEMENTS WHICH ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BOMBINGS IN PANAMA.

3. MIDDLE EAST: THE PRESS CONTINUES TO RE-PLAY COMMENTS FAVORABLE TO THE RECENT SOVIET STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST. PRAVDA'S LEAD INTERNATIONAL STORY IS ABOUT PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST ISRAELI ACTIONS ON THE WEST BANK, AND INCLUDES AN ITEM SUMMARIZING THE UNSC DEBATE AND CITING THE PLO STATEMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGAINST ISRAELI OCCUPATION. PRAVDA'S MAIN COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN BY BORIS KOTOV DISCUSSES PREPARATIONS FOR THE REFERENDUM ON THE NEW NATIONAL CONSTITUTION IN ALGERIA. AND KZ ANNOUNCES THE DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER AND CHIEF AIR MARSHAL P.S. KUTAKHOV WILL VISIT JORDAN IN THE SECOND HALF OF MAY.

4. ANGOLA. PRAVDA CARRIES A BRIEF ITEM STATING THAT THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA HAS NATIONALIZED ALL MAJOR COMPANIES AND CERTAIN INDUSTRIES WHICH WERE PREVIOUSLY UNDER PORTUGUESE CONTROL.

5. COMMUNIST AFFAIRS: PRAVDA RE-PLAYS EXCERPTS FROM A LEAD ARTICLE IN THE HUNGARIAN WEEKLY "MADYARORSAG" (PHONETIC), WHICH DESCRIBES THE GROWING SIGNIFICANCE OF "PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM" (P.I.). IT SAYS THAT WHILE EACH PARTY MUST SERVE THE INTERESTS OF ITS OWN WORKERS AND PEOPLE, IT MUST ALSO SERVE THE INTERESTS OF "THE INTERNATIONAL WORKING CLASS (AND) COUNTRIES OF SOCIALISM." THE LATTER PHRASE IS SPELLED OUT TO MEAN THE

SOVIET UNION. PRAVDA ALSO CARRIES A LENGTHY COMMENTARY BY P. VOVIN IN SUPPORT OF BREZHNEV'S PROPOSALS FOR POST-CSCE CONFERENCES ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION, AND ENERGY (ETE). A BOOK REVIEW IN PRAVDA BY O. ORESTOV TALKS ABOUT THE SUCCESSES OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND THE EFFORTS BY THE "YOUNG INDEPENDENT STATES" TO MOVE IN THE DIRECTION OF SOCIALISM. ORESTOV DESCRIBES THOSE WHICH ARE MOVING IN A PROGRESSIVE DIRECTION AS HAVING A "SOCIALIST ORIENTATION".

6. KZ REPORTS FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD'S FIVE-YEAR DEFENSE PLAN, NOTING (GISCARD'S REMARKS THAT FRANCE WILL NOT REJOIN NATO BUT THAT THE ALLIANCE HAS "SIGNIFICANCE" FOR THE CONTINUING "BALANCE OF FORCES" IN EUROPE." THE ITEM ALSO REPORTS HIS PROPOSAL TO STRENGTHEN CONVENTIONAL FORCES AND HIS PROJECTIONS OF SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED DEFENSE SPENDING BY 1982.

7. LAOS: AN IZVESTIYA COMMENTARY BY B. VASIL'YEV FOLLOWS UP THE RECENT VISIT BY LAOTIAN PARTY AND GOVERNMENT CHIEF KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN. THE ARTICLE NOTES THE "ATMOSPHERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF FRATERNAL FRIENDSHIP, FRANKNESS, AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING" SHOWN DURING THE VISIT AND CITES THAT PORTION OF THE COMMUNIQUE CLAIMING "COMPLETE UNITY OF VIEWS ON QUESTIONS DISCUSSED." THE ITEMS MENTIONS SOVIET AID TO THE LAOTIAN ECONOMY AND FOR PREPARATION OF "CADRES" IN DIFFERENT SPHERES. VASIL'YEV THEN SAYS THAT LAOS WOULD HAVE ACHIEVED EVEN MORE IN THE PAST FIVE MONTHS WERE IT NOT FOR THE DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT FROM THE TERRITORY OF "NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES" -- AN OBVIOUS REFERENCE TO THAILAND, ECHOING LANGUAGE IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ". (REPORTED SEPTEL).

8. CAMBODIA: PRAVDA REPORTS THAT DEPUTY PREMIER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS LENG SARY SENT A TELEGRAM TO SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO EXPRESSING THANKS FOR THE LATTER'S GREETINGS ON SARY'S BEING NAMED TO HIS PRESENT POST. THE MESSAGE, ACCORDING TO THE TASS ACCOUNT, EXPRESSED "CERTAINTY THAT RELATIONS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN DEMOCRATIC CAMBODIA AND THE SOVIET UNION WOULD BE STRENGTHENED AND DEVELOPED." THE TEXT OF THE MESSAGE WAS NOT, HOWEVER, PUBLISHED.

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